REMARKS

By the above amendment, claims 15 – 18 have been amended, and no estoppel should be deemed to be associated with this amendment.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted, Takuji MAEDA et al.

Bruce H. Berhstein

Reg. No. 29,027

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May 3, 2006 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191